

THANK YOU VOLUNTEERS!

by Texas Attorney General Greg Abbott

EACH YEAR, THE ATTORNEY GENERAL'S Office extends the reach of its child support workforce by utilizing the skills and abilities of hundreds of volunteers who perform their duties without compensation. In recognition of National Volunteer Appreciation Week (April 21-27), the employees of the Child Support Division would like to thank these volunteers for their service and dedication to the children of Texas.

Each year, volunteers across the state help the Office of the Attorney General serve Texas families and children more efficiently and effectively. Volunteering can be beneficial to people from different walks of life, including individuals seeking new job skills; student-interns seeking to satisfy course requirements; retirees and other Texans who simply wish to give back to their communities.

Child support volunteers perform a variety of duties, including data entry, filing, and assisting attorneys and child support officers. The time and skills volunteers contribute help each office operate more efficiently.

Not only do volunteers make an impact on children, but they

positively impact taxpayers as well. Last year, volunteers and student interns donated more than 54,000 hours, saving taxpayers \$1.1 million.

These dedicated Texans are vital to the success of the child support program. By graciously donating their time, volunteers are helping the Attorney General's Office provide children with critically important financial and medical resources. Thanks to these individuals, the Office of the Attorney General can help ensure that young Texans have the resources they need to grow healthy and strong.

Child support volunteers have a passion and genuine desire to help the children of Texas. This passion is what drives Priscilla Borens to volunteer in the Longview child support office where she regularly maintains the file room and assists staff. Priscilla's sacrifice and desire to give back to the community says a lot about her caring and giving nature.

Students are another example of the outstanding volunteers that the OAG is lucky to have. Students from all types of backgrounds and education levels volunteer their time to make a difference and gain valuable skills.

For the past seven years, students from the Notre Dame School in Dallas, which serves students ages 8-21 with developmental disabilities, have volunteered in local child support offices. The students perform tasks such as metering mail, shredding, sorting, and filling copiers and fax machines with paper.

University students also volunteer at local child support offices. The Child Support Division has benefitted from talented students from universities such as the University of Houston, The University of Texas and Texas State University. Their dedication and hard work help the Child Support Division make an impact and serve the greater needs of Texans.

Thank you to each volunteer who has left a mark on the Child Support Division — many lives have now been enriched.

Individuals interested in volunteering Monday through Friday, 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. should contact their local child support office. Contact information can be found on the Community Services/Volunteer Program section of the Attorney General's Child Support website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov.

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POINTS TO REMEMBER



CHILD SUPPORT

You can apply for child support services by:

- Visiting Child Support Interactive on the main Attorney General website at www.texasattorneygeneral.gov.
- Calling the 24-hour voice response system at (800) 252-8014

Provide the following information about the other parent with your application:

- Current address
- Current (or last known) employer's name and address
- Social Security number and date of birth
- Names and addresses of relatives and friends
- Names of banks or creditors such as utility companies
- Names of organizations, unions or clubs to which the other parent belongs
- Places where the other parent spends free time

If possible, submit copies of official documents, like your:

- Divorce decree
- Children's birth certificates
- Signed Acknowledgment of Paternity

